

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**OCHSNER HEALTH LHSAA STATE GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS – Division I Boys First-Day Story**

**Monday, May 1, 2023, at The Farm d'Allie (6,536 yards, par 72), Carencro, La.**

**CARENCRO** – C. E. Byrd had three players break par in the opening round to take the first-day lead here Monday in the Boys Division I competition at the Ochsner Health LHSAA State Golf Championships.

Byrd, the defending champion and winners of five of the last seven titles, had a one-over 289 score in the first round over the 6,536-yard par-72 Farm d'Allie layout. That was good enough for a seven-stroke lead over St. Paul's at 296, with Benton and Catholic-Baton Rouge tied for third at 302 entering Tuesday's final round.

Carter Schmitt of Catholic-Baton Rouge posted the top individual score with a five-under-par 67, giving him the individual lead by three strokes over Zachary's Drew Silman at two-under 70. Three Byrd players – Ethan Dial, Duke Bowen and Grant Reagan – are among five players tied for third at one-under 71, along with Nick Kelsey of St. Paul's and Noah McWilliams of Benton.

Five players are at even par, and defending champion Joshua Achord stands at two-over 74 entering the final round, which begins at 9 a.m.